

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended.

Claims 2-5, 7-13, 15, 22, 23, 25, 32 and 33 have been amended. Claims 1, 14, 24 and 34-42 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 2-13, 15-23 and 25-33 are presented for examination.

Applicants acknowledge that claims 2, 7, 12, 15-21, 25-31 and 35-40 would be allowable if amended to include the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 3-4, 6, 8-9, 13-14, 22, 24, and 34 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being clearly anticipated by Wilber (U.S. Patent No. 6,324,558). In addition, claims 5, 10-11, 23, 32-33 and 41-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilber. Further, claims 1, 3-6, 8-11, 13-14, 22-24, 32-34 and 41-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shefi (U.S. Patent No. 6,266,413). Applicants submit that the above rejections have been obviated by the amendment of the claims to appear in condition for allowance, as indicated in the Office Action.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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